

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: Chair Llew Jones, on March 8, 2017 at 8:00 AM, in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Llew Jones, Chair (R)
Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)
Sen. Mary Caferro (D)
Sen. Terry Gauthier (R)
Sen. David Howard (R)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Mary McNally (D)
Sen. Albert Olszewski (R)
Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R)
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)
Sen. Jon C. Sesso (D)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)
Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn (R)
Sen. Lea Whitford (D)
Sen. Cynthia Wolken (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 180, 2/24/2017; HB 294, 2/24/2017; SB 94, 2/24/2017;
HB 307, 2/24/2017

Executive Action: SB 180 Do Pass; HB 307 Be Concurred In As Amended; SB 94 Do Pass
As Amended - Fiscal Note requested and bill held in committee; HB 294
Motion withdrawn; HB 3 Be Concurred In As Amended

HEARING ON SB 180

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:36 Sen. Mike Lang (R), SD 17, opened the hearing on SB 180, Revise laws regarding taxation of certain airlines.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:09 Debbie Alke, Montana Department of Transportation

00:02:28 Robert Story, Montana Taxpayers Association

00:02:43 Mark Taylor, Alpine Air Express, Inc. (AAEI)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs48a01\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:03:52 Lee Baerlocher, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:04:19 Sen. Sesso

00:04:39 Mr. Baerlocher, DOR

00:05:07 Sen. Sesso

00:05:26 Mr. Baerlocher

00:06:01 Sen. Sesso

00:06:09 Mr. Taylor, AAEI

Closing by Sponsor:

00:07:19 Sen. Lang

HEARING ON HB 294

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:08:31 Rep. Jean Price (D), HD 24, opened the hearing on HB 294, Encourage accessible playgrounds statewide.

[EXHIBIT\(fcs48a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs48a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs48a04\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:14:21 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns

00:16:54 Casey Furr, representing herself

[EXHIBIT\(fcs48a05\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs48a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs48a07\)](#)

00:21:25 Dennis Parman, Montana Rural Education Association
00:24:24 Kelsi Steele, representing herself
00:28:58 Sen. Ankney joined the meeting.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:30:54 Rep. Price

HEARING ON SB 94

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:32:05 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB 94, Provide property tax exemption for certain residential property.

[EXHIBIT\(fcs48a08\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs48a09\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

00:40:03 Mike Kadas, Montana Department of Revenue
00:43:29 Ronda Wiggers, Montana County Treasurers Association
00:46:37 Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties
00:48:45 Steve Turkiewicz, Montana Bankers Association

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:50:06 Sen. Howard
00:50:37 Sen. Regier
00:51:04 Sen. Howard
00:51:17 Sen. Regier
00:51:32 Sen. Sesso
00:52:15 Sen. Regier

Closing by Sponsor:

00:52:32 Sen. Regier

HEARING ON HB 307

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:53:47 Rep. Kathy Kelker (D), HD 47, opened the hearing on HB 307, Create statutory appropriation for radioactive waste account.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:56:12 Bryan Fox, general, Montana Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:58:11 Sen. Olszewski
00:58:37 Mr. Fox, DMA
00:58:43 Sen. Sesso
00:59:25 Mr. Fox

Closing by Sponsor:

00:59:43 Rep. Kelker

01:00:25 Chairman Jones
01:02:04 Sen. Sesso
01:02:20 Chairman Jones
01:02:41 Sen. Olszewski left the meeting.

01:02:43 Recess
01:22:16 Reconvene

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 180

01:23:50 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Moore moved that **SB 180 DO PASS**. Motion carried 17-0 by voice vote. Sen. Olszewski was excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 307

01:24:13 **Motion:** Sen. Moore moved that **HB 307 DO PASS**.
01:24:15 Sen. Olszewski joined the meeting.

Discussion:

01:24:56 Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
EXHIBIT(fcs48a10)

01:25:15 Chairman Jones

01:25:24 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Moore moved that **HB 307 BE AMENDED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

01:25:42 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Moore moved that **HB 307 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED**. Motion carried 17-1 by voice vote with Sen. Welborn voting no. Sen. Sesso will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 94

01:26:13 **Motion:** Sen. Moore moved that **SB 94 DO PASS**.

01:26:30 **Motion:** Sen. Moore moved that **SB 94 BE AMENDED**.
[EXHIBIT\(fcs48a11\)](#)

Discussion:

01:27:30 Sen. Caferro
01:28:21 Sen. Moore
01:28:28 Sen. Caferro
01:28:56 Sen. Lang
01:29:03 Chairman Jones
01:29:13 Sen. Caferro
01:29:50 Sen. Howard
01:30:02 Sen. Sesso
01:31:43 Chairman Jones
01:31:46 Sen. Howard
01:31:54 Chairman Jones
01:31:57 Sen. Caferro

01:32:05 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Moore moved that **SB 94 BE AMENDED CONCEPTUALLY** striking "20" and inserting "30". Motion carried 18-0 by voice vote.
[EXHIBIT\(fcs48a12\)](#)

01:32:46 Sen. Sesso

01:33:31 **Motion:** Sen. Sesso moved that **SB 94 BE AMENDED CONCEPTUALLY** removing the tax lien.

Discussion:

01:33:59 Sen. Sesso
01:34:23 Chairman Jones
01:34:52 Sen. Sesso

01:35:07 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Discussion:

01:35:19 Chairman Jones
 01:35:42 Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
 01:36:12 Sen. Phillips
 01:36:24 Chairman Jones
 01:36:47 Sen. Phillips

01:37:31 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Moore moved that **SB 94 DO PASS AS AMENDED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. *(Note: A new fiscal note was requested based on the amendments and the bill was held in committee.)*

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 294

01:38:20 **Motion:** Sen. Moore moved that **HB 294 BE CONCURRED IN**.

Discussion:

01:39:01 Sen. Lang
 01:39:06 Sen. Sesso
 01:39:14 Chairman Jones
 01:39:23 Sen. Olszewski
 01:39:52 Sen. Caferro
 01:40:42 Sen. Olszewski
 01:41:22 Sen. Caferro
 01:42:18 Sen. Phillips
 01:42:42 Sen. Moore
 01:43:20 Sen. Phillips
 01:43:55 Chairman Jones
 01:44:31 Sen. Moore withdrew his motion.
 01:44:49 Chairman Jones
 01:44:55 Sen. Osmundson
 01:45:39 Sen. Lang
 01:46:22 Sen. Ankney
 01:47:12 Chairman Jones

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 3

01:48:04 **Motion:** Sen. Moore moved that **HB 3 BE CONCURRED IN**.

01:48:32 **Motion:** Sen. Moore moved that **HB 3 BE AMENDED**.
[**EXHIBIT\(fcs48a13\)**](#)

Discussion:

01:48:48 Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
 01:49:33 Sen. Moore
 01:49:54 Ms. Wilkinson, LFD
 01:50:47 Sen. Wolken
 01:51:04 Ms. Wilkinson

01:51:19 Sen. Wolken
01:51:38 Ms. Wilkinson
01:51:44 Sen. Phillips
01:52:02 Chairman Jones

01:55:39 Recess
02:00:56 Reconvene

Discussion:

02:01:04 Chairman Jones
02:01:11 Todd Everts, code commissioner, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
02:05:33 Sen. Phillips
02:05:46 Mr. Everts, LSD
02:07:12 Sen. Phillips
02:07:30 Mr. Everts
02:07:38 Chairman Jones
02:08:01 Sen. Wolken
02:08:30 Mr. Everts
02:09:13 Sen. Osmundson
02:09:30 Mr. Everts
02:09:49 Sen. Osmundson
02:09:59 Mr. Everts
02:10:07 Sen. Moore
02:10:20 Ms. Wilkinson

02:10:29 Sen. Sesso left the meeting.

02:10:33 **Vote:** Motion carried 14-4 by voice vote with Sen. Caferro, Sen. McNally, Sen. Whitford, and Sen. Wolken voting no. Sen. Sesso voted by proxy.

02:11:18 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Moore moved that **HB 3 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED**. Motion carried 17-1 by voice vote with Sen. Caferro voting no. Sen. Sesso voted by proxy. Sen. Moore will carry the bill.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:12 AM

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fcs48aad.pdf](#))